

MILTON MEDINA AND PETE SANTANA FOR THE NEWARK BOARD OF EDUCATION

IMPACT NEWARK 2000: EDUCATIONAL PLATFORM

As residents of the city of Newark concerned about the high cost and increasing deterioration of our school system, we feel that a CHANGE IS LONG OVERDUE! No longer can we tolerate the status quo:

- unacceptable high drop-out rates among our students;
- a school budget that is larger than our municipal budget while the educational achievement of our children is one of the lowest in the state;
- a corrupt, patronage racked central administration;
- a system on the verge of a state takeover;
- overcrowded and deteriorating facilities;
- conditions leading to an increasing demoralization of our teachers, administrators and support staff.

A CALL TO ACTION

Citizen taxpayers of Newark can no longer sit idly by and allow the gradual deterioration of our school system to continue, because it affects everyone of us now and in the future. As Newark experiences a renaissance, we must insure that the Newark Board of Education can guarantee the preparation of our children into the 21st century. WE NEED A BOARD OF EDUCATION THAT IS RESPONSIBLE AND EFFECTIVE!

Impact Newark 2000 will raise these issues as part of the debate that must be conducted throughout the neighborhoods before the Board of Education elections on April 4, 1997. Our educational platform calls for the Board of Education to:

-INSTILL A SENSE OF PRIDE, VALUES AND DISCIPLINE IN OUR SCHOOLS.

It is unforgivable that hundreds of parents feel forced to send their children to private and parochial schools because they reject the public school environment.

-ENSURE EFFECTIVE FISCAL MANAGEMENT.

We must insure that the money from rising property taxes goes into the classroom rather than a patronage filled, bloated bureaucracy at 2 Cedar Street. The State of New Jersey must also be pressured to meet its financial responsibilities to our city.

-IMPLEMENT A SYSTEM OF ACCOUNTABILITY.

A key to good schools is accountability. Teachers and Principals must be given more autonomous control of local schools. School administrators must be held accountable for the failure or excellence of our schools.

-CREATE AND EXPAND ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS-

We are concerned with the lack of adequate technical and vocational preparation in our school system. Our high drop-out rate indicates that along with an academic preparation, we must also stress job-training that prepares our students for a highly technological job market.

-PRESS FOR AN IMMEDIATE PLAN TO REDUCE OVERCROWDING.

There must be a coherent plan to reduce the overcrowding in many of our elementary schools. The student-teacher ratio in many of our classrooms is detrimental to learning.

-SUPPORT MULTI-ETHNIC, BILINGUAL EDUCATION FOR ALL.

We should celebrate the multi-ethnic, multi-lingual character of our great city by insuring attractive ESL and Bilingual programs for all. Hispanics, Portuguese, Italians, East Indians, and Asians. Our curriculum must also reflect the contributions that African-Americans, Latinos, Italians, Portuguese and other ethnic groups have made and continue to make in this city and country.

-CONTINUE AND EXPAND GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAMS.

Newark has had great success with a limited Gifted and Talented program. Further resources should be allocated so that this program can be expanded to all wards.

A NEW DIRECTION

ON CAMINO NUEVO!

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Impecto Newark 2000

Adopted Feb. 1999

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MILTON MEDINA

Milton Medina is a long-time resident (26 years) and homeowner in Newark's North Ward. Milton has a long history of dedication, commitment and service to the Latino community and the entire city of Newark. Presently a Detective in the Newark Police Department assigned to the Youth and Community Services Division(Juvenile Division). Milton has received numerous awards for his police and community work.

- Trainee of the Fraternal Order of Police.
- President of the Hispanic Law Enforcement Society (Essex County).
- Leader of the Puerta Ricana Congress (Congreso Boricua) of N.J.
- Member of the Boringuen Lions Club.
- Ex-Chief of Operations for the Newark Emergency Medical Services(EMS).

PETE SANTANA

Pete Santana is a long-time resident of Newark active in the struggle for educational reform. He is presently an attorney in the law firm of Linares and Covello.

- Graduate of Rutgers Law School.
- Member of the Hispanic Bar Association (N.J.).
- Former Executive Director of Board Affairs for the Newark Board of Education.
- Former Vice-Chair of the North Ward Democratic County Committee.
- Former member of the Greater Newark Urban Coalition.